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PATENT APPLICATION

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Junji NISHIGAKI, et al.

Appln. No.: Not Yet Assigned

Confirmation No.: Not Yet Assigned

Group Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned

Filed: March 19, 2002

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

For: COMPOUNDS FOR FLUORESCENCE-LABELING

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please enter the following amended claims:

5. The compound according to claim 3, wherein at least one of  $V^1$ ,  $V^2$  and  $V^3$  is a group selected from the group consisting of a halogen atom, an alkenyl group, and alkynyl group, an aryl group, a heterocyclic group, cyano group, an alkylthio group, and arylthio group, a heterocyclylthio group, an alkylsulfonyl group, and an arylsulfonyl group.
6. The compound according to claim 3, wherein at least one of  $V^1$ ,  $V^2$  and  $V^3$  is a group selected from the group consisting of a halogen atom, an alkynyl group, an aryl group and a heterocyclic group.
7. The compound according to claim 3, wherein at least one of  $V^1$ ,  $V^2$  and  $V^3$  is an aryl group substituted with a sulfo group or a salt thereof, a heterocyclic group substituted with a sulfo group or a salt thereof, or an alkynyl group substituted with a sulfo group or salt thereof.
8. The compound according to claim 3, wherein at least one of  $R^1$  and  $R^2$  is an alkyl group or aryl group substituted with a reactive substituent that can form a covalent bond, an ionic bond, or a coordinate bond with a substance to be labeled.
9. The compound according to claim 3, wherein at least one of  $R^1$  and  $R^2$  is an alkyl group or aryl group substituted with a group that can form a covalent bond with amino group, hydroxyl group, or thiol group of a substance to be labeled.
10. The compound according to claim 3, wherein at least one of  $R^1$  and  $R^2$  is an alkyl group substituted with a carboxyl group.